



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO YPSILANTI CITY COUNCIL WARD #2 POSITION

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name Barnaby Pung

Residence Address 817 Kewanee st Ypsilanti MI 48197

Home Phone [REDACTED] Work Phone [REDACTED]

E-Mail [REDACTED]

Cover Letter & Resume

Please attach a one page cover letter and a resume of no more than two pages to this application.

Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of Councilmember for the City of Ypsilanti on separate pages using no more than 3 pages total:

1. Why are you interested in serving as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?
2. What strength would you bring to the Council?
3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues?
4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Ypsilanti community. Address its relevance to the position of Ypsilanti City Councilmember.
5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember?
6. What is your vision for our City and community?
7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?

Please return (*in person*) this form, your cover letter, resume, and answers to the supplemental questions to the City Clerk, at Ypsilanti City Hall (1 S. Huron St.) **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 27, 2018.**

Applications received after 5:00 p.m. will not be accepted.

The application and any correspondence should be addressed to:

Frances McMullan, City Clerk
City of Ypsilanti
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Barnaby Pung

817 Kewanee Street • Ypsilanti, MI 48197 • [REDACTED]

November 24, 2018

RE: Ypsilanti City Council Ward 2

Dear Selection Committee;

Please accept this letter and attached resume and supplemental questions as my application for the vacant Ypsilanti Ward 2 Councilperson position.

This position interests me for several reasons. I am not one to shy away from a challenge and am driven by a desire to help others succeed. The breadth of my experience in education combined with the depth of my formal training allows me to successfully navigate most education and political environments. I define success as having helped others succeed and achieve their dream. The theme of personal engagement is a key element throughout my volunteer and professional activities. My doctoral dissertation research identified personal engagement as a key factor in developing an engaged alumnus population. The same principles apply in developing community engagement among city residents. The key lies in a strong sense of identity. This is something already present in Ypsilanti that I would love to help foster and turn into more action.

I have an absolute devotion to Michigan. I have spent all my life, except for a brief foray to grad school in Kentucky, living in Michigan. Other than the town I grew up in, I have lived in Ypsilanti longer than anywhere else. During this lifetime of experience and community engagement, I have developed strong relationships across the state in government, education, non-profit, arts and culture, and business development that would allow me to hit the ground running in developing relationships to tackle the unique challenges facing Ypsilanti. Much of the revitalization work being done in Southeast Michigan is happening at the convergence of education, arts, culture, and technology. My education and experience in all these areas will inform my work as a city councilperson. I also bring credibility when engaging diverse leaders at all levels having been a K-12 teacher in a public high school, an Academic Dean at a private non-profit college. Across the board, I have a solid reputation as a change agent, connector, and team player.

As a first-generation college graduate who grew up on a farm, I am no stranger to hard work. During undergrad, I paid for a large chunk of college by, working as an RA during the school year and cleaning and building sewers for the Waste Water Department back home in the summers. This work ethic has served me well in my professional roles and community volunteer work. For nearly a decade, I worked in Housing and Residence Life. This particular field is a lifestyle more than a job. In these roles I did everything from developing new programs, to fixing flooding toilets at 3 am, to meeting parents at the hospital when their son or daughter tried to commit suicide. This work along with my other roles has prepared me for the public life that comes with public service. I embrace experiences that are a lifestyle and thrive in active environments where change is a constant. I believe that I would be a solid addition to the leadership team and welcome the opportunity to serve.

Best,

[REDACTED]

Barnaby

Barnaby Pung

817 Kewanee Street • Ypsilanti, MI 48197 • [REDACTED]

Education & Certifications

- Ph.D. in Higher, Adult and Lifelong Education,** May 2013
Department of Educational Administration, College of Education, Michigan State University
Cognate: Public Relations Media *Dissertation Topic:* Early Alumni Identity
- Master of Science in Library Science,** May 2003
College of Communications, University of Kentucky
- Bachelor of Arts in English,** April 1999
Lee Honors College, Western Michigan University
Honors Thesis: Impact of Extracurricular Involvement on Student Success

Academic Administration Experience

- Independent Consultant** June 2017 to Present
- Provide subject area expertise in education and workforce policy and practice
 - Develop individual training modules for diverse client sets
 - Leadership Coaching and Team Development
 - Guide change leadership including generation of new programs, program restructuring, and organizational design
- Interim Ph.D. Program Manager, Educational Studies (Temp Contract)** February 2018 to August 2018
University of Michigan, School of Education, Educational Studies Program, Ann Arbor, MI
- Assistant Director, Contemporary Student Services (Contract)/PT Faculty** July 2016 to May 2017
Western Michigan University Extended University Programs, Kalamazoo, MI
- Teach Senior Seminar, University Studies capstone course, and Conflict Resolution
 - Coordinate course schedule and provide advising for Miller College teach-out students
 - Advise Associate Dean in retention strategies and conduct retention analysis for EUP
 - Designed and implementing new joint Law Enforcement program between WMU and KCC
 - Research new opportunities to expand degree completion programs and services to adult learners
- Dean, School of Business and School of Arts & Sciences** August 2014 to June 2016
Robert B. Miller College, Battle Creek, MI (College Closed June 2016)
- Acting Dean, School of Nursing (March 2015- June 2015 during national search)
 - Develop curriculum and course schedules for 70% of the college's academic programs
 - Supervise 27 faculty and adjuncts and developed new institutional evaluation plan
 - Advising load of 100+ students
 - Reviewed requests for and managed faculty compliance with classroom accommodations
 - Provide career services for students and alumni
 - Facilitated teach-out process with WMU and college closure

Teaching & Advising Experience

- Instructor, English Language and Theatre Arts** Summer 2014
E-Class Program, Chifeng, China
- Taught American English Language and Theatre (Acting, Improv, Costuming, Design)
 - Co-Directed student graduation performance

Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI August 2010 to July 2014, August 2018 to Present

Part-Time Faculty in Academic and Career Skills (2010-2014, 2018 – Present)

Career Development Specialist *(Grant Funded 18 months)*

- Provided employment and educational services to job seekers in cooperation with government, education, and community partners as a part of a grant funded partnership with Washtenaw County Michigan Works!
- Team of 6 redeveloped employment services for Washtenaw County Michigan Works! providing over 24,000 distinct services to approximately 10,000 unique community members annually
- Personally created and delivered workshops and programs serving over 2,000 individuals annually

Professional Services Faculty/Career Advisor *(4 months, FT Temporary)*

- Provided a variety of services to WCC students, former students and alumni to assist them in their job search and enhance their technical and soft skills
- Worked with faculty and employers to identify areas where educational programs and workforce needs are in alignment or can be aligned more closely

Orientation Advisor *(1-year Part Time)*

- Presented and coordinated orientation sessions for parents and new students

High School English and History Teacher

Schoolcraft High School, Schoolcraft, MI

August 1999 to August 2001

Residence Education Experience

Area Complex Director; Co-Director of Summer Conferences

Eastern Michigan University (EMU) Housing, Ypsilanti, MI

August 2007 to June 2010

- Resident administrator of two residence halls in the First Year Center
- Supervise staff including a graduate level Assistant Hall Director, an Office Manager, 20 Resident Advisors, 15 Night Watch employees, and 12 Office Assistants

Complex Director McDonel Hall

July 2003 to July 2007

Interim Complex Director Holmes Hall

November 2006 to May 2007

Michigan State University (MSU) Department of Residence Life, East Lansing, MI

Hall Director Haggin Hall

July 2001 to May 2003

University of Kentucky (UK) Office of Residence Life Lexington, KY

Selected Volunteer Activities

- School Board, Executive Member, Secretary, Honey Creek Community School 2018- Present
- School Board Member, Honey Creek Community School Term Runs 2017-2020
- Equity Committee Member, HCCS School Board 2018- Present
- Communications Committee Member, HCCS School Board 2017- Present
- Sustainability Committee Member, HCCS School Board 2016- Present
- Michigan Historic Preservation Network 2003-Present
- Board of Directors, Battle Creek Regional History Museum 2015-2016
- Generation E and Center for Entrepreneurship Advisory Board 2015-2016
- BC Vision Workforce Development Task Force 2014-2016
- Michigan Historic Preservation Network, Fall Fundraiser Planning Committee 2011-2014,2016
- Michigan Historic Preservation Network, Conference Planning Committee 2009
- Chair of Advisory Board, EMU LGBT Resource Center 2008-2009

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Response to Supplemental Questions for City Council Ward 2

1. Why are you interested in serving as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember? I have always been active in community engagement and in supporting the local community through my work in education. Serving as a City Councilmember is a way to become even more involved in a direct way. I have had opportunities for work that would have taken my family and I away from the community and have turned them down to remain here in the community we love. I see how wonderful this city is, but I also see where there is work to be done. In applying for this position, I am looking to be a driver in that work and an advocate for the people of Ypsilanti.

2. What strength would you bring to the Council? I bring a solid background in leadership and community engagement in college and university settings to the council. This work has provided me with a unique perspective to offer. Having worked at EMU in the past and currently working at WCC I understand the perspective of those that work for and attend these institutions that reside in the city. This is particularly important in Ward 2 given its proximity to campus. This proximity can be both a challenge and a boon. Knowing many of the ins and outs of this relationship is key to its success and to building a stronger bond between campus and city that benefits the whole community. I also understand the workforce and business needs of the community through my work at Michigan Works on Harriet Street. As a Career Development Specialist I worked with people from all backgrounds across the county, but particularly the city of Ypsilanti. This work involved outreach to a variety of employers and community organizations to help people in need. Doing this job well required a depth of knowledge about the community that would serve me well on City Council.

3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues? Recycling, Promotion, and Equity. A quick glance at the neighborhood Facebook pages in Ward 2 will give you insight into the frustrations many residents have with recycling services. While the types of items recycled seems to meet need, there is room for discussion around the type of receptacle used and the method of collection. More discussion with the service provider to find solutions that will serve residents and potentially improve collection for the provider as well are in order. Ypsilanti notoriously suffers from an image problem, particularly as it applies to local media and often unfavorable comparisons to our neighbor to the West. I would like to build stronger relationships with media and take advantage of social media opportunities to highlight all of the amazing things Ypsilanti has to offer. We need to build on existing successes and look for ways to support and promote promising positive endeavors in the community. Lastly, but far from least, is addressing equity in our community. Oftentimes equity is viewed as an end-state instead of a way of thinking and being. Rather than place Band-Aids on our community with program after program we need to invest our energy into seeing that equity is an underlying value on which we build everything else. This requires incorporation of principles of equity into our school classrooms, police, local government, and community businesses through trainings and workshops and cross-connections between varied community agencies. I would step up to facilitate these trainings and relationships to build on and grow existing community efforts in cooperation with local training agencies and educational partners.

4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Ypsilanti community. Address its relevance to the position of Ypsilanti City Councilmember. While I have a fair amount of volunteer community involvement, my formal engagement with Ypsilanti has been more directly tied to my work. I worked at WCC for 4 years between 2010 and 2014 and am currently working there again as part time faculty. While at WCC I was engaged in community work through Michigan Works! I spent a year and a half running employment workshops for the community and connecting with small business owners, community agencies, churches, and human service organizations. I also volunteered with the Shifting Gears program to help displaced workers shift into new careers. For the past 2 years I have volunteered to help with the Meals on Wheels Holiday Home Tour. The consistent theme is that I seek out opportunities to work in

service areas, especially those related to serving those struggling to find employment. This is also the population I find myself working with as an instructor at WCC. My desire for pursuing this opportunity is to engage in service in a way that I have not done before. I believe my understanding of the community as it struggled post-recession and then began to thrive and grow again will help me as a voice on city council to speak for all members of the community. I am not afraid to go out into the community and listen to the voices that are not always heard and to seek feedback and input from those working multiple jobs that cannot make community meetings.

When I took a position as a Dean that required me to commute to Battle Creek I refused to move because of my, and my family's love for our community. While working in Battle Creek I served on the board of the regional history museum, worked closely with the chamber of commerce there, and was a part of the Battle Creek Vision community reinvestment team. I also worked with area school improvement efforts, workforce development efforts, and served on the advisory board of Generation E (a youth entrepreneurship program). While these specific activities took place in Battle Creek, I believe they are valid in the work that I can do on City Council. They provide experience in community engagement outside of Ypsilanti that gives me a unique voice and perspective that can help to tackle the hard work to be done and continue the good work already in progress. I would love to be able to take my experience from Battle Creek and apply it here in Ypsilanti.

5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as an Ypsilanti City Councilmember? I hope to see an improved community unity not only within Ward 2 but across neighborhoods and different parts of the city. I would like to see a transition to a larger single bin recycling curby with a lid to facilitate ease of transport to curb and to keep the element off of the recycling. I would like to see an increase in the amount of positive press in local media and on social media. I would also like to see forward momentum in making equity the thing we build upon in our community policing, community activities and schools.

6. What is your vision for our City and community? My vision is for a vibrant diverse community where all feel welcome to live, learn, and visit.

7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?
The areas where I have excelled at my career are those where I have worked with underrepresented populations and nontraditional students. As a first-generation college graduate who grew up on a farm, I am no stranger to hard work. During undergrad, I paid for a large chunk of college by, working as an RA during the school year and cleaning and building sewers for the Waste Water Department back home in the summers. While at Eastern Michigan University, I received a *Role Model & Mentor Award* for my work supporting the LGBT community on campus and I served as Chair & Housing Representative for the LGBT Resource Center Advisory Board. In response to student needs and data indicating a desire to have more domestic opportunities to connect with other cultures at MSU, I successfully collaborated with my housing manager to create a new living-learning opportunity centered on international culture and language studies. In March 2007, we received the *Team University Excellence in Diversity Award*, recognizing our efforts toward creating a positive living-learning environment on campus. That same year, I also received the *Making a Difference Award* from the Office of Cultural & Academic Transitions for supporting underrepresented students on campus during a difficult time on campus. In 2011, I was ranked among the *Top 100 Highest Rated Faculty* at Washtenaw Community College. And, in March 2016, I was honored with the *Golden Pinecone Award for Community Engagement* from Robert B. Miller College. Currently I serve as Secretary of the Honey Creek Community School Board, Chair of the Community Outreach Committee and as a representative on the Equity Committee.

Sincerely,

